

State an idle unthrifty, non-producing class to pray upon their substance. They propose to give liberty to the slaves, which for many will be the liberty to starve. They propose to fill the jails, almshouses and penitentiaries, and thereby impose upon the tax-payers of the State burdens which, in these days of excessive taxation, they are so little able to endure.

Mr. CLARKE asked and obtained leave to place upon the Journal the following amendment, to be hereafter offered as a substitute for the article:

"That from and after the first day of January, 1865, there shall in this State be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except in punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, and all persons held to service or labor as slaves are hereby declared free from and after the first day of January, 1865, provided the Congress of the United States shall, before the first day of January, 1865, make an appropriation to the State of Maryland, of not less than twenty millions of dollars, to aid the State of Maryland in providing compensation to the owners of slave property, and the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States shall certify to the Governor of this State that the said sum of money is subject to the draft of the Treasurer of the State of Maryland, to be disposed of by the Legislature of the State, to pay the owners of slaves for their slaves hereby declared free; and provided further, that unless Congress shall make the said appropriation as hereinbefore provided, this section shall be null and void, and it is hereby declared that it shall be of no effect whatever."

Mr. CLARKE asked and obtained leave of absence.

On motion of Mr. DANIEL,
The Convention adjourned.

THIRTY-SEVENTH DAY.

TUESDAY, June 21, 1864.

The Convention met at 10 o'clock A. M.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Patterson.

The roll was called and the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Goldsborough, President; Abbott, Annan, Audoun, Baker, Barron, Berry, of Baltimore county, Berry, of Prince George's, Billingsley, Blackiston, Bond, Briscoe, Brown, Carter, Chambers, Crawford, Cunningham, Cushing, Daniel, Davis, of Charles, Davis, of Washington, Dennis, Duvall, Earle, Ecker, Edelen, Farrow, Gale, Galloway, Greene, Harwood, Hatch, Hebb, Hodson, Hoffman, Hollyday, Hopkins, Hopper, Horsey, Johnson, Jones, of Cecil, Jones, of Somerset, Keefer, Kennard, King, Larsh, Lee, Mace, Marbury, Markey, McComas, Mitchell, Miller, Morgan, Mullikin, Murray, Nyman, Parker, Parran, Pugh, Purnell, Robinette, Russell, Sands,

Schlosser, Scott, Smith, of Carroll, Smith, of Dorchester, Smith, of Worcester, Sneary, Stirling, Stockbridge, Sykes, Turner, Valiant, Wickard, Wooden—77.

The proceedings of yesterday were read and approved.

Mr. JONES, of Somerset, asked and obtained leave of absence.

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS—ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.

The Convention proceeded to the consideration of the order of the day, being the second reading of the report of the Committee on the Declaration of Rights. The pending article was the following:

Art. 23. That hereafter, in this State, there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except in punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; and all persons held to service or labor as slaves are hereby declared free.

To which Mr. CLARKE had given notice of the following amendment:

Amend by striking out all after the word "that," in line 1st, and insert "from and after the first day of January, 1865, there shall in this State be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except in punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, and all persons held to service or labor as slaves are hereby declared free from and after the first day of January, 1865, provided the Congress of the United States shall before the first day of January, 1865, make an appropriation to the State of Maryland, of not less than twenty millions of dollars, to aid the State of Maryland in providing compensation to the owners of slave property, and the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States shall certify to the Governor of this State that the said sum of money is subject to the draft of the Treasurer of the State of Maryland, to be disposed of by the Legislature of the State, to pay the owners of slaves for their slaves hereby declared free; and provided further, that unless Congress shall make the said appropriation as herein before provided, this section shall be null and void, and it is hereby declared that it shall be of no effect whatever."

Mr. BILLINGSLEY. According to parliamentary usage and courtesy, the discussion this morning is due to the opposition. If any gentleman wishes to speak upon the question now, I will waive my right.

Mr. DANIEL. I moved the adjournment, but it was not with the intention of speaking this morning. I yield the floor therefore with pleasure to the gentleman from St. Mary's.

Mr. BILLINGSLEY. After the intelligent banquet which was spread before us in the able, eloquent and elaborate discussion of the fourth article of the Declaration of Rights, without accomplishing any favorable results